**STAT** 

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2010/09/09: CIA-RDP90-00806R000100200041-3

ARTICLE APPEARED ON PAGE //

NEWSWEEK 10 January 1983

## **PERISCOPE**

## A New Search for Missing GPs

Are there any American prisoners of war in Southeast Asia? Most experts doubt it, and parents of missing soldiers have been victimized by a number of hoaxes. But the Special Operations Association, veterans of covert action in Vietnam and elsewhere, believes that a very few of the 2,500 servicemen still unaccounted for in Vietnam

may be alive and in captivity. The group has mounted several unsuccessful secret forays into Laos to search for Americans; now it is going public. With a grant from Soldier of Fortune magazine, it has founded the Center for POW-MIA Accountability. The center will establish a computerized data bank of evidence relating to missing soldiers. The administration lists only three Americans as possibly alive in Vietnam; 2,535 are "presumed killed."